

Message Text

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ACTION OFA-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-10 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 L-03

CG-00 DOTE-00 DODE-00 OIC-02 DLOS-04 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PRS-01 INT-05 TRSY-02 OES-03 AF-06 ARA-06

NEA-10 /087 W

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R 120926Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2984

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HALIFAX

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 MADRID 6347

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ICNAF, EFIS, OCON, XN, SP, US

SUBJ: ICNAF SPECIAL MEETING MONTREAL

REF: STATE 209590; STATE 193300; STATE 181330;
MADRID 6020

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: SULLIVAN, GORDON AND EMBOFF EMPHASIZED
USG CONCERN RE ICNAF QUOTAS TO FISHERIES DIRECTOR GENERAL
DE MANUEL AND INTERNATIONAL DIVISION CHIEF BERMEJO AND
WARNED OF INCREASING POSSIBILITY US UNILATERAL DECLARATION
200 MILE ZONE. DE MANUEL SAID GOS CONCERNED AS WELL, BUT
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NOTED THAT SPAIN ALSO SUBJECT TO DOMESTIC PRESSURES AND
ADDED THAT SPAIN'S FISHERIES, ESPECIALLY OF SQUID, AN

IMPORTANT SOURCE OF PROTEIN IN THE SPANISH DIET. AT GREAT LENGTH STATED SPAIN'S WILLINGNESS COOPERATE IN ICNAF AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS. SULLIVAN TOOK ADVANTAGE OCCASION TO NOTE US HOPE FOR CLOSED AREA ON GEROG'S BANK, A FISHING VESSEL LICENSING PLAN SUCH AS SPAIN PRESENTLY HAS, AND A CHANGE IN THE TRAWL REGULATION EXEMPTION PROCEDURES. HE ALSO EXPRESSED HOPE GOS WOULD BE ABLE TO TELL USG SOMETHING OF ITS EFFORTS TO LIMIT TUNA FISHING IN THE PACIFIC, IN ORDER TO AVOID PROHIBITION SALE IN US OF SPANISH TUNA WHICH MIGHT BE REQUIRED BY US LAW. END SUMMARY

2. SULLIVAN TRACED BACKGROUND OF TWO TIER QUOTA SYSTEM IN SOME DETAIL AND EMPHASIZED NEED FOR REDUCTION OF FISHING EFFORT IN ORDER TO WARD OFF DEPLETION. NOTED THAT EVEN WITH NO EFFORT WHATSOEVER, EXPERTS HAD DETERMINED THAT THREE YEARS WOULD BE NEEDED TO BRING BIOMASS TO OPTIMUM SIZE. IT WOULD TAKE FIVE YEARS IF TOTAL LIMIT WERE 550,000 TONS, SEVEN YEARS IF 650,000 METRIC TONS AND TEN YEARS IF LATTER QUOTA EXCLUDED SQUID. STATED THIS LATTER PERIOD ENTIRELY TOO LONG TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO USG. FURTHER INVESTIGATION AFTER ANNUAL MEETING IN EDINBURGH HAD LED TO US EXPERTS URGING ESTABLISHMENT OF TAC (TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH) OF EVEN LESS THAN 550,000 TONS AND NOTED HERRING AND MACKEREL EVEN MORE DEPLETED THAN PREVIOUSLY SUPPOSED.

3. SULLIVAN THEN EXPLAINED USG UNDER INCREASING PRESSURE FROM FISHING INDUSTRY AND CONSERVATION INTERESTS TO ADOPT 200 MILE ZONE; MEASURE IN THIS SENSE PASSED SENATE LAST YEAR. ADDED THAT MERCHANT MARINE AND FISHERIES COMMITTEES OF HOUSE REPORTED SIMILAR BILL OUT BY 36 TO 3 VOTE, WITH GOOD CHANCE SENATE COULD PASS SUCH A MEASURE AGAIN, AND WITH POSSIBILITY OF CONGRESS OVERRIDING PRESIDENTIAL VETO. SULLIVAN ADDED EXECUTIVE BRANCH HOPES REACH LAW OF SEA AGREEMENT NEXT YEAR, AS SECRETARY KISSINGER MADE CLEAR IN MONTREAL SPEECH. THIS WOULD BE MADE MUCH MORE DIFFICULT IF CONGRESS WERE TO DECLARE A 200 MILE ZONE UNILATERALLY. HE POINTED OUT TO GOS OFFICIALS THAT IS ICNAF FINDS SOLUTION TO PROBLEM AT MONTREAL MEETING, HE COULD NOT GUARANTEE THAT THIS WOULD STOP CONGRESSIONAL EFFORTS FOR A 200 MILE ZONE. BUT ADDED THAT IF SOLUTION NOT FOUND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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SUCH LEGISLATION CERTAINLY WOULD STAND AN EXCELLENT CHANCE OF PASSING.

4. SULLIVAN ALSO EMPHASIZED FINDING THIS SOLUTION IMPORTANT FOR PURPOSES WELL BEYOND THOSE OF JUST ICNAF. NOTED THAT CANADA HAS VERY SIMILAR PROBLEM AND STATED THAT ID CANADA AND US FORCED INTO UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF 200 MILE ZONE MOST OF THE WORLD WILL PROBABLY HAVE FOLLOWED SUIT BE COMMENCEMENT OF LOS CONFERENCE, MAKING TREATY ON THAT MATTER EXTREMELY DIFFICULT.

5. SULLIVAN THEN POINTED OUT THAT USG WELL AWARE SPANISH INTEREST IN SQUID, AND THAT THIS SPECIES AT LEAST NOT OVER-FISHED. STATED THERE WAS NO PROPOSAL TO CHANGE SQUID QUOTA. BUT USG FELT SQUID SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN TAC.

6. DE MANUEL SAID GOS HAS OBSERVED INCREASE OF 200 MILE CLAIMS FOR A LONG TIME. HE REPORTED GROWING VIEW THERE THAT BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS IN FISHERIES MATTERS WOULD BECOME INCREASINGLY USEFUL. HE AGREED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF APPLYING COMMON SENSE TO FISHING EFFORT AND STATED THAT SPAIN HAS SHOWN GOOD WILL TOWARD ICNAF, FOR EXAMPLE BY ESTABLISHING OF ITS OWN ACCORD A LICENSING SYSTEM FOR FISHING IN ICNAF AREAS. HOWEVER, HE EMPHASIZED THAT GOS IS ALSO UNDER CONSIDERABLE DOMESTIC PRESSURES FROM ITS FISHERMEN. ADDED THAT SQUID CAPTURED BY SPANISH FISHERMEN A VITALLY IMPORTANT SOURCE OF PROTEIN FOR SPANISH PEOPLE. HE WENT ON TO STATE THAT SPAIN HAD SUFFERED THROUGH THE REDUCTION OF ITS COD QUOTA TO 500 TONS A REDUCTION WHICH HE SAID HURT SPAIN MORE THAN IT HAD OTHER COUNTRIES.

7. SULLIVAN STATED USG HOPED AGREE AT MONTREAL MEETING TO INCLUDE SQUID IN SECOND TIER QUOTA AND TO REDUCE TAC TO 550,000 TONS, WHICH WOULD RESTORE BIOMASS TO OPTIMUM SIZE WITHIN FIVE YEARS. HE REALIZED IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR SPAIN TO ACCEPT THIS, BUT NOTED THAT ALTERNATIVES MIGHT BE EVEN MORE DIFFICULT THAN THAT. DE MANUEL TOOK NOTE OF THESE CONSIDERATIONS BUT STATED WOULD NEED TO CONSULT SHIP OWNERS BEFORE REPLYING. ADDED THAT SPANISH BILOGISTS HAD FOUND PERFECTLY GOOD REASONS FOR A 650,000 TON TAC, THUS MAKING IT DIFFICULT TO DEFEND ONE OF 550,000 TONS, WENT ON TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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RESTATE WILLINGNESS SPAIN TO COOPERATE IN ICNAF AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIATIONS, BUT SUGGESTED USG SEEK TO COME UP WITH PROPOSALS WHICH WERE LESS HARD AND MORE VIABLE. SULLIVAN REPLIED HE REALIZED PROPOSALS DIFFICULT, BUR STATED THEY CALLED FOR IN THESE DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES. HOWEVER, HE ALSO STATED THAT THE USG HAS NO INTENTION OF EXCLUDING FOREIGN FISHERIES EVEN IF A 200 MILE ZONE WERE TO BE ESTABLISHED. EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR WHAT SPAIN DID IN LICENSING ICNAF FISHING AND FOR COOPERATION GENERALLY.

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CG-00 DOTE-00 DODE-00 OIC-02 DLOS-04 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PRS-01 INT-05 TRSY-02 OES-03 AF-06 ARA-06

NEA-10 /087 W

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R 120926Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2985

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

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8. SULLIVAN ALSO TOOK ADVANTAGE MEETING TO INFORM DE MANUEL
USG HOPE FOR A CLOSING AREA ON GEROGE'S BANK, A FISHING VESSEL
LICENSING SCHEME, AND AN OVERHAUL OF THE TRAWL EXEMPTION
PROVISIONS.

9. DE MANUEL SAID ONE SPANISH SHIP HAS BEEN INSPECTED AND
FOUND TO HAVE A RATHER LARGE HADDOCK BYCATCH.WHEN INSPECTED
AGAIN PER GOS ORDER ON ARRIVAL IN VIGO, SHIP FOUND
TO HAVE FAR LOWER PERCENTAGE. HE THEREFORE SUGGESTED MARGIN
OF TOLERANCE BE AGREED ON.

10. WITH PERMISSION DE MANUEL, SULLIVAN RAISED ISSUE OF
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PACIFIC TUNA FISHING, NOTED TWO RELEVANT PROVISIONS US LAW:

A. POSSIBLE SUSPENSION APPLICATION OF IATTC REGS TO
US FISHERMEN IF SUBSTANTIAL VIOLATION THESE REGS BY FOREIGN

FISHERMEN OFFICIALLY FOUND;

B. REQUIRED PROHIBITION SALE TUNA IN US BY COUNTRIES
FOUND BY COMMERCE SECRETARY TO BE VIOLATING IATTC REGS.
SULLIVAN ADDED USG HAS ON OCCASION REFUSED EXEMPT US
FISHERMEN FROM THIS RULE BUT STATED PROHIBITION OF SALES
IS MANDATORY AND THAT SPAIN COULD BE AFFECTED. SULLIVAN
ASKED THAT IF SPAIN TAKING ANY DOMESTIC ACTIONS FOR CON-
SERVATION THIS SPECIES IT WOULD DO WELL TO INFORM USG IN
ORDER AVOID POSSIBLE BAN SALES SPANISH TUNA IN US.

11. DISCUSSION ENSUED SPANISH MEMBERSHIP IATTC, WHICH
BLOCKED BY OBJECTIONS FROM MEXICO WHICH HAS NO DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS IN SPAIN. SULLIVAN NOTED AMBASSADOR CLINGAN
RECENTLY DISCUSSED MATTER WITH MEXICAN OFFICIALS AND USG
CONTINUES TO SEEK AGREEMENT SPANISH MEMBERSHIP. DE MANUEL
SAID SPAIN RELUCTANT MAKE SECOND APPLICATION AFTER INITIAL
REJECTION, HOWEVER, DISCUSSION BROUGHT OUT THAT SPAIN NOT
ACTUALLY REJECTED BUT SIMPLY NOT YET ACCEPTED IN IATTC.

12. MEETING ENDED ON AGREEMENT EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WAS USEFUL
AND EXPRESSION OF HOPE BY DE MANUEL THAT SOME REPLY WOULD
BE GIVEN TO US QUOTA LIMITATION SUGGESTIONS AFTER CONSULTA-
TIONS WITH SHIP OWNERS. SULLIVAN AGREED US OFFICIAL WOULD
DISCUSS ISSUE FURTHER WITH BERMEJO IN MONTREAL.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FISHERIES MEETINGS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MADRID06347
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750316-0641
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750958/aaaabzfs.tel
Line Count: 249
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OFA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 209590, 75 STATE 193300, 75 STATE 181330
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <29 SEP 2003 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ICNAF SPECIAL MEETING MONTREAL
TAGS: EFIS, OCON, XN, SP, US, ICNAF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006